

OSA 1397-63  
10 March 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD:

SUBJECT: Magnetic Tape Recorder Monitoring of Briefings,  
Conferences, and Telephone Conversations

1. Commo/OSA has been requested to arrange for the installation of magnetic tape recorders to cover briefings, conferences, and various telephone conversations, both classified and unclassified in nature.

2. Requests received to date, including both oral and written requests, include provisions for the following:

A. Conference and briefing coverage of the Control Center conference room. The Security Branch/ADMIN/OSA has been requested to assist. Operation and monitoring of equipment will be the responsibility of the Operations Division/OSA.

B. Provisions to cover all classified and unclassified telephone conversations taking place in the Operations Division control room cubicle. Primarily intended to be used during periods of operational activity.

C. Provisions to cover telephone conversations in the offices of Deputy Chief and Chief, OSA.

3. In anticipation of covering the requirements outlined in 2A and 2D above, four Revere Model T-204-2 tape recorders have been ordered and received. One of the tape recorders was turned over to the Commo Security Division, Office of Communications, for RFI tests. Preliminary results of these tests do not appear encouraging. A written report of the tests is being prepared and should be received within 10 days. Should the Revere Model T-204-2 not meet desirable RFI specifications, the recorders obtained to date will be exchanged for Revere Model T-202 single channel recorders, which have met minimum RFI specifications.

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4. The security ramifications of the various installations will have to be explored carefully. Over and above the security problems of an installation, the necessity for secure methods for handling, marking, storing, accessibility, playback, and disposal has to be considered. The Security Branch will be requested to establish the necessary procedures for handling the installations and tapes.

5. The possibility of additional requirements for telephone recording suggests a semi-automated system keyed to certain lines and actuated by line employment. Equipment exists which can be readily adapted for this purpose. Justification of the installation in terms of work is another problem.

6. On 18 March 1963, one Revere T-204-2 was installed temporarily in the office of DAD/OSA. The pick-up device employed is held to the hand receiver by a small suction cup. The device appeared to work satisfactorily during preliminary tests. Further practical tests, as well as checking any contributions the device may add to RFI problems, will be scheduled.

Distribution:

Original - OSA/COMMO L-2

1 - DAD/OSA

1 - OD/OSA

1 - SECUR/OSA

1 - CHRONO

~~1 - RB/OSA~~

OSA/COMMO,

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